

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHODS OF USING A MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX CLASS III HAPLOTYPE TO DIAGNOSE CROHN'S DISEASE

The present invention provides a method of
5 diagnosing or predicting susceptibility to an autoimmune
disease in an individual by determining the presence or
absence in the individual of a 2-2-4 haplotype at the
Notch4, HSP70-HOM and D6S273 loci, where the presence of
the haplotype diagnoses or predicts susceptibility to the
10 autoimmune disease. The methods of the invention can be
particularly useful for diagnosing or predicting
susceptibility to Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis
or type I diabetes mellitus. In a preferred embodiment,
a method of the invention is used to diagnose or predict
15 susceptibility to Crohn's disease in an individual of
Ashkenazi Jewish ethnicity.